

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 21

By Jackson

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mayor Jerry Dixon of Centerville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Mayor Jerry Dixon; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Dixon was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of Hickman County, Mr. Dixon was a highly respected member of the Centerville community; and

WHEREAS, he was Centerville's Man of the Year for 1993, largely in recognition of his adroit service as President of the Centerville Recreation Association and his involvement with the Centerville Volunteer Fire Department for seven years; and

WHEREAS, elected in October of 1997, Mr. Dixon served with alacrity as Mayor of Centerville, in which position he earned the respect of all Centerville citizens for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, he also contributed to his community through his work as owner of The Trophy Case, a sporting goods store, as an executive at Tencon, and later as the co-creator of

that company's descendent, Signage, which employs over one hundred Centerville workers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dixon's work on behalf of the City of Centerville will be felt there for many years to come; he was among the leaders of a job-seeking effort, established four new police officer slots, opened River Park to the youth soccer program, led the Great Centerville Clean-Up Campaign, had a new post office built, established a local access channel, and encouraged the construction of new retail stores and restaurants; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Dixon was an active and devout member of the Centerville Church of Christ, which he served faithfully as a deacon, following in the footsteps of his father who was also a church deacon, and as head of a part of the church's visitation program; and

WHEREAS, as his own minister, Brother Paul Rogers, so aptly put it, "He served his own generation by the will of God"; and

WHEREAS, he was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Jerry Dixon enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of thirty-seven years, Linda King Dixon, and was the proud parent of Jerilyn, Jon, and Dan; and

WHEREAS, he will be greatly missed by his three surviving brothers, Thomas, George, and Charles; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dixon was immensely beloved by his four grandchildren, who referred to him affectionately as "Pots"; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, George and Lillian Mills Dixon, and by a brother and a sister; and

WHEREAS, a man of great fairness and impartiality, Mayor Dixon leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Mayor Jerry Dixon, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character, characteristic optimism and stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Jerry Dixon.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.